England's Path
TO
Wealth and Honour
IN A
DIALOGUE
Between an
ENGLISH-MAN
AND A
DUTCH-MAN.

LUKE V. 4.

Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

The Second Edition with Additions.

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Wealth and Honour

IN A

DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

AND A

DUTCH-MAN.

TO

The Moſt Noble

THOMAS Duke of LEEDS

Marquiſs of CARMARTHEN,

Earl of DANBY,

Viſcount LATIMER,

Baron Osborne of KIVETON;

AND

KNIGHT *of the moſt Noble* Order *of the* GARTER.

GOVERNOUR *of the Royal* Fiſhery *of* ENGLAND.

May it pleaſe Your Grace,

NO Perſon having ſpent more Money and Pains, than Your *Grace* to Reeſtabliſh the *Fiſhery* of *England*; I preſume to Dedicate to you the following *Dialogue*: Not that I have the Vanity to

believe this my poor Mite can make any Addition to Your Grace's Great Treasure of Knowledge: But as believing the Fact in this Little Book contain'd, so true it might safely appear before the Best of Judges.

With all Respect I am,

Your Grace's

most Humble

most Faithful

most Obliged

and most Obedient Servant

James Puckle.

PREFACE.

THE *Highlands of* Scotland, Wales, Biſcay, Switzerland, *and other Countries* (*not worth the conquering*) *continue ſtill in poſſeſſion of their Aborigines: Whereas,* England *being a Country* (*as was ſaid of the Tree of Paradice*) *good for Food, pleaſant to the Eyes, and to be deſired, hath been poſſeſſed by Five ſeveral Nations, and coveted by many more.*

Yet view its Coaſts they'l appear Bold, and but thinly Inhabited, and the Civil Wars of our Iſland having occaſioned the demoliſhing of its ſtrong Holds, in caſe of Attack how can we be defended againſt Foreign powerful Enemies, but by a Naval Power.

Allowing us Maſters of more Tall Ships than any of our Neighbours. What Security can a numerous Navy afford, if Marriners be wanting.

Whether England *wants Marriners beſt appears by our turning 'em o're from Ship to Ship, by our long, long Embargoes, and yet exceſſive Charge in Preſſing, and by ſo many of our Ships being loſt* (*during the late War*) *for want of their Complement.*

Nor

Nor can the Number of our Seamen be readily Encreaſt, without Eſtabliſhing a Fiſhery. *For Men of War and Merchantmen ſpend many Marriners and breed Few, the great and beſt Nurſery for Seamen is the* Fiſhery; *where each Dogger brings up (it may be) Six, Eight, or Ten, new Men every Year, and the Fiſhermens Buſineß lying where our Ship's Danger lies, makes them know how the Sands ſhift, where the Rocks and Shelves are; conſequently moſt able Coaſters and admirable Pilots.*

Beſides by frequent riding out great Storms in ſmall Buſſes and Doggers, Fiſhermen become ſo ſteeled and habituated to Danger, that in Tempeſts and Engagements they work Wonders; and the Fiſh lying upon our own Coaſts, the Men we employ to catch them (though out of his Majeſties Pay) will be ever at Hand, and ſo ready for Service, as to make our watchfulleſt Enemies deſpair of ſurprizing us.

Again, " *A due Care for our Poor, is an Act* " *of great Civil Prudence and Political Wiſdom,* " *for Poverty in it ſelf is apt to E-* " *maſculate the Minds of Men, or* " *at leaſt it makes Men tumultuous* " *and unquiet, where there are very* " *many Poor; the Rich cannot long* " *or ſafely continue ſuch; neceſſity* " *renders Men of Phlegmatick and dull Natures,* " *Stupid and Indiſciplinable, and Men of more fiery* " *or active Conſtitutions, Rapacious and Deſperate.*

L.C.J. *Hale* in his Diſcourſe touching Proviſion for the Poor.

The Poors Rates of England *(beſides Voluntary Charity) amounts to near a Million* per Annum; *by*

by which its Evident, what vaſt Numbers of Beggers and Idle Perſons live upon the Publick without return of Labour for their Bread; now Beggars Children (if not deſtroy'd in the Womb, or at the Birth) being bred up in Want and Lazineſs: Become of unhealthful Bodies, and more than ordinary ſubject to many loathſome Diſeaſes, whereof abundance die in their tender Age; and ſuch as attain to riper Years, by idle Habits contracted in their Youths, are rendred for ever unapt and undiſpoſed for Labour, and ſerve only to ſtock the Kingdom with Theives and Beggars: So that without a due Care for Relief of our Poor in a way of Induſtry, they'l daily Encreaſe.

Suppoſe, to employ our Poor any one Manufacture be encouraged: It may perchance remove the preſent Trade of one City or County to another, and occaſion ſuch Complaints as the Button-Makers *(not long ſince) made againſt Cloath Buttons, yet leave the generality of our Poor deſtitute of a convenient Support and Proviſion.*

Nay, could we at once Encourage every Manufacture in England, *encreaſing our Manufactures and not our Food, would only leſſen the Miſery of our preſent Poor by ſharing it amongſt all the People of the Kingdom.*

The moſt effectual Expedient then to employ our Poor, is to Eſtabliſh a Fiſhery; *which by affording them at once both Food and Employment, would quickly turn the great Burthen of our Nation into an equal Benefit.*

Much

Much more might be ſaid to this Purpoſe; but at preſent ſhall only add that within thirty Years paſt, our active Neighbours the French *have encreaſed their Navigation to a Proverb. Given* Europe *much diſquiet, and coſt* England (*in particular*) *abundance of Blood and Treaſure. But had not* Engliſhmen *been guilty of more than* Spaniſh *ſloath in not putting forth their Hands to take that Rich bleſſing,* (*the* Fiſhery) *which Providence by placing upon our Coaſts, courts us* (*as it were*) *to receive all our Sovereignes* (*as well as Queen* Elizabeth,) *might have bounded the Numbers of the* French *Fleet, and by the bleſſing of God have been*

Pacis Europæ Arbitri,

Maris Domini & Vindices.

A NEW DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

AND A

DUTCH-MAN.

Dutch-Man, GOOD *morrow Friend, what art muſing on?*

Engliſh-Man, Conſidering the Extent of theſe your Dykes, I was thinking what exceſſive Charge and Pains *Holland* is yearly at to defend it ſelf againſt invading Waves: Whereas the Sea that encircles happy *England* (Barrier like) fenceth it againſt Surprize and Ravages, exempts us from the Charge and Terrour of Garriſons and Fortifications, and (with our Floating Caſtles) continues to us that quiet Liberty and Security the reſt of *Europe* more or leſs have loſt.

D. *What though* England *be fenc'd in by the Seas, happier* Holland *hath a mighty Ocean of Wealth to defend it, and Money you know is the Sinews of War.*

E. The cold Winds (being moiſtened by the Vapours, or ſoftned by the warmth of the Seas motion before they reach our Iſlands) are leſs fierce, and the Air is far more Mild and Temperate (if not more Healthy) than any part of the Continent under the ſame Climate; ſo that we have no neceſſity for Grotto's in Summer, or Stoves in Winter.

D. *In my Opinion, that Country is ſtill Happieſt that is ſtored with the Richeſt growths and products for Trafick and Commerce, and the Air ever beſt where moſt Money is ſtirring; for Poverty and Want will render People unhealthy in all Climates.*

E. *England* abounds with Mines, Rocks, Pits and Quarries of (*a*) Alibläſter, (*b*) Antimony, (*c*) Ardois, (*d*) Blacklead, (*e*) Chalk, (*f*) Chriſtal, (*g*) Tobaccopipe-Clay, (*h*) Coals of divers Sorts, (*i*) Copper, (*k*) Fullers-Earth, (*l*) Freeſtone, (*m*) Iron, (*n*) Lapis Calaminaris to

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(*a*) *Darbyſhire, Nottinghamſhire, Staffordſhire,* (*b*) *Darbyſhire,* (*c*) *Cornwall,* (*d*) *Cumberland,* (*e*) *Suſſex,* (*f*) *Darbyſhire,* (*g*) *Dorſetſhire,* (*h*) *Carmarthenſhire, Cumberland, Durham, Lancaſhire, Leiceſterſhire, Northumberland, Shropſhire, Staffordſhire, Yorkſhire,* (*i*) *Cornwall, Cumberland, Darbyſhire, Staffordſhire, Yorkſhire,* (*k*) *Bedfordſhire, Surrey,* (*l*) *Dorſetſhire,* (*m*) *Darbyſhire, Durham, Glouceſterſhire, Hampſhire, Shropſhire, Staffordſhire, Warwickſhire,* (*n*) *Somerſetſhire,*

make

make Braſs, (o) Loadſtones, (p) Lead, (q) Marble, (r) Milſtones, (s) Plaiſter harder then that of Paris, (t) Potters-Oar, (u) Slate, (w) Salt, (x) Steel, (y) Tinn, (z) Wheetſtones, &c.

Upon its Coaſts are found (a) Amber, (b) Ambergriſe, (c) abundance of Copperice Stone, (d) Jet, (e) Pearls, (f) fine Pebles; tranſparent like Diamonds, alſo Flint, Varrack, &c. to make Glaſs: Beſides (not to mention the Rich Commodities yearly Imported from its Fruitful Plantations, that are to it as ſo many Mines of Treaſure,) *England* affords Plenty of Corn, Cattle, Fowl, Fruit, Pulſe, Leather, Wool, &c. Whereas, *Holland* produceth nothing but a few Hops, Madder, Butter and Cheeſe.

D. *The whole Product of your Iſland is nothing, when compared to the* (g) Golden Mines *of our Provinces, which have yielded us more Treaſure*

(o) *Devonſhire,* (p) *Cardiganſhire, Carmarthenſhire, Darbyſhire, Devonſhire, Durham, Staffordſhire, York ſhire,* (q) *Darbyſhire, Dorſetſhire,* (r) *Angleſey, Cheſhire, Darbyſhire, Flintſhire,* (s) *Nottinghamſhire,* (t) *Carmarthenſhire,* (u) *Cornwall,* (w) *Cheſhire, Cumberland, Worceſterſhire,* (x) *Glouceſterſhire,* (y) *Cornwall, Devonſhire,* (z) *Darbyſhire.*

(a) *Norfolk,* (b) *Cornwall,* (c) *Whitſtableſhallow,* (d) *Norfolk,* (e) *Cumberland,* (f) *Cornwall, Glouceſterſhire.*

(g) So the *Dutch* in a Proclamation 1624. ſtiled the Fiſhing Trade.

than the Mines of Potoſi, *or both* Indies *to* Spain.

E. The *Golden Mines* of your Provinces; Pray where do they lie?

D. *In Neptunes* Store-pond, *which the* Engliſh *call their Seas.*

E. Our Famous *Edgar* with a Navy of Four hundred Sail, vindicated his Dominion on our adjacent Seas, and Records mention his Succeſſor *Canutus* to have laid that ancient Tribute called *Danegelt*, upon all (whether Strangers or *Denizons*) trading on our Coaſts or Seas.

Egbert, *Alfred* and *Ethelfred*, all ſtiled themſelves Supream Lord's and Governour's of the Ocean, ſurrounding the *Britiſh* Shore.

King *John* (*b*) challenged the Honour (or rather) Duty of the Flag, univerſally paid us, not barely as a Civility, but as a Right (*debitâ Reverentiâ*) Acknowledging our Title and Dominion.

The Famous Record entituled *Pro hominibus Hollandie*, ſhews how Obſequious your Anceſtors were, not only in acknowledging (*i*) *Edward* the Firſts Dominion on the Sea, but craving his Protection and Permiſſion to Fiſh on the Coaſt of *England*: And had not the Sovereignty of the *Britiſh* Seas in fact been in the Crown of *England*, why did the (*k*) Earls

(*b*) *Anno* 1200. (*i*) *Anno* 1295. (*k*) *Rot. Pat.* 23. *Ed.* 1ſt. *memb.* 5.

of

of *Holland* Petition *Edward* the Third (and the (*l*) *French* out *Henry* the Sixth) for leave to Fiſh therein? And why did your (*m*) Skippers uſe to purchaſe Licenſe from *Scarborough* Caſtle, before they preſumed to caſt a Net upon the *North* Coaſts of *England*? Wherefore did *Phillip* the Second of *Spain*, (*n*) obtain Licenſe of Queen *Mary* for his Subjects to Fiſh upon the *North* Coaſts of *Ireland* for the Term of Twenty one Years, for which, was yearly paid One thouſand Pounds into the *Exchequer* of *Ireland* as by the Records appear?

D. *A Fig for your mouldy Records: I ſay the Sea is as free to Fiſh in as*———

E. —As the Roads of *Holland* are to Travel in, where both Natives and Foreigners are forced to pay paſſage *Gheit*.

D. *Don't Interrupt me* Sir; *I ſay, the Sea is as free to Fiſh in as the Air to Breath in, who doubts it, may read our Great* Hugo Grotius's, Mare liberum.

E. *Grotius* in his *Sylvæ* upon the *Inauguration* of King *James* (before he was perverted by the Importunities of his Country Men,) ſpeaking his Thoughts freely ſay's,

———*Tria Sceptra profundi*
In magnum coiere Ducem.

(*l*) *Rot. Pat.* 22. *Ed. IVth. memb.* 2. (*m*) *Camden's Brittania*, (*n*) 1552.

The

The Rights of the *Engliſh*, *Scottiſh* and *Iriſh* Seas, are united under one Scepter; neither is he ſatisfied with that bare Profeſſion:

Sume Animos à Rege tuo qui dat Jura Mari.

Take courage from the King that giveth Laws to the Seas.

And in the ſame Book in the contemplation of ſo great a Power, he concludeth.

Finis hic eſt qui ſine caret, &c.

This is an End beyond an End, a Bound that knows no Bounds, which even the Winds and Waves muſt ſubmit to.

And if you remember when King *James* obſerved your Encroachments, he enjoined his Ambaſſadour Sir *Dudley Carleton* to Expoſtulate it with your States, as may be ſeen in Mr. Secretaries Letter, (*o*) wherein he tells them, " That unleſs they ſought leave from his Maje-" ſty and acknowledged his Right, as other " Princes had done, and did, it might well " come to paſs, that they who would needs " bear all the World before them by their *Ma-*" *re Liberum*, might ſoon endanger their ha-" ving neither *Terram*, *nec Solum*, *nec Rempub-*" *licam liberam*: So much did that Wiſe Prince

(*o*) 21. *Dec.* 1618.

diſdain

disdain to be wrangled out of the Ancient Rights, and Regalities inherently annexed to his Crown, by the subtle Arguments of Wit and Sophistry.

D. *Don't tell me of King* James, *I say, that the Sea is free for every Body, and defy you to shew the Contrary.*

E. Why then do the *Venetians* exercise Dominion in the *Adriatique*, and the *Tuscans* Lord it in the *Tyrrhene* Seas? How comes it to pass that all your Skippers pay Toll to *Denmark* for passing the *Sound*, and to *Sweedland* for sailing in the *Baltick*? Wherefore doth the Republick of *Genoa*, let to Farm the *Fishery* for *Tunnies* in their Neighbouring Seas: And the Emperour of *Russia* compel all Fishermen (within his Seas) to pay him Tribute: How is't that the like is done by the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* in *Spain*, and by all the Princes of *Italy* bordering on the Seas? Nay, wherefore do the *Dutch* Stile themselves Lord's of the *Southern* Seas, and allow far less Liberty in *India* than they take upon the *English* Coasts.

But to wave this Dispute: Pray *Sir*, how many Labourers have you in your Golden Mines as you call'd 'em.

D. *Upon taking an Account of the several Trads and Employments, by which the* Dutch *subsisted (in order to find which best deserved the Protection and Encouragement of the Publick, it appeared that in* Anno 1668. *The Subjects of the States*

States General were (p) *Two millions, Four hundred and Fifty thousand, of which (beſides thoſe employed in the Inland* Fiſhery,) *Four hundred and Fifty thouſand were then maintained by Fiſhing at Sea, and the Traſick depending thereon; ſince which time we have much encreaſed the Numbers of our Fiſhing Buſſes and Doggers to the great Encouragement of our Navigation, and all Trades depending on the* Fiſhery?

E. Which are they?

D. Anchorſmiths, Bakers, Balleſtmen, Basket-makers, Blackſmiths, Brewers, Butchers, Carpenters, Caulkers, Claphoard-ſplitters, Compaſs-makers, Coopers, Duck-weavers, Hemp-dreſſers, Hook-makers, Hoop-ſlitters, Joyners, Line-makers, Mariners, Maſt-makers, Net-makers, Net-tanners, Plummers, Pully-makers, Pump-makers, Rope-makers, Sail-makers, Sawyers, Ship-chandlers, Shipwrights, Tallow-chandlers, Thread and Twine-ſpinners, &c. to the no ſmall Profit of the Makers and Venders of all Materials, Tools and Utenſils belonging to thoſe Trades, and of all Tradeſmen that make or ſell Culinary Wares, Bedding, Cloathing, &c. for Mariners; to which may be added, Packers, Tollers, Dreſſers and Couchers to carry, ſort, and make the Herring lawful Merchandize, alſo Porters, Carmen, &c. In a word, you can hardly caſt an Eye upon any ſort or condition of People, but are the better for our Fiſhery, *and the community moſt of all.*

(p) Pol. Gron & Maxims Van Holl. *Page* 43.

E. Pray

E. Pray where, and at what times of the Year do you fish for Herrings?

D. In the beginning of June, *the Herring rising about two Leagues off* Cranehead (*the outermost part of* Bratio-sound,) *stay there about fourteen Day's, thence go to* Farry *Islands* (*seaven Leagues to the* Southward *of* Shetland,) *round which they remain one and twenty Day's, thence to* Buffinness (*about thirty Leagues to the* Southward *of* Farry *Island,*) *the Fishing place is called* Buffin-deeps, *and is twenty Leagues to the* Northward *of the* Frith, *where the Herring abide about fourteen Day's, and in the Fishing ground under* Chivit-hills *and* Chivit-chace *about fourteen Day's, thence we follow them to the* Dogger-bank, *where they stay about thirty seaven Day's; about the beginning of* September, *they come into* Yarmouth *Seas, where they continue near seaventy Day's, from whence they fall to the* Southward, *followed by small Fishermen, it being dangerous for Busses.*

E. What quantities of Fish are yearly taken by the *Dutch*?

D. About (q) *Three hundred thousands Lasts.*

E. This confirms Sir *Walter Rawleigh*'s Observations presented to King *James*, (r) and shews that the Learned Sir *John Burrough*'s in his Sovereignty of the *Brittish* Seas, upon good Grounds affirmed that the Fish yearly taken by

(q) L. v. Aitzma. Anno 1653.
(r) *Anno* 1633.

Strangers upon our Coasts, did amount to (s) above Ten millions of pounds Sterling: But pray Sir, where have you vent for all your Fish?

D. *At* Artois, Brabant, Bremen, Cleveland, Cologne, Dantzig, Denmark, Elbin, Embden, Flanders, France, Frankford, Germany, Gulickland, Hamburgh, Henault, Holstein, Italy, Liefland, Lithuania, Lubeck, Nerva, Norway, Poland, Pomerland, Portugal, Prussia, Quinsbrough, Revel, Riga, Russia, Spain, Stade, Stratten, Sweedland, *&c.*

E. Are you never afraid of glutting the Markets.

D. *No more than we are that People will leave eating, great part of the trading World being yet unserved, which is the Reason we yearly so much encrease the Number of our Doggers.*

E. What Returns are made for your Fish?

D. *Allum, Armour, Barawces and other* Frankford *Commodities, Brandy, Bullion, Clapboard, Coin, Copper, Corn, Currants and other* Grocery *Wares, Damasks, Dealboards, Dollars, Flax, Fruit, Furrs, Fustians, Glass, Hemp, Honey, Hulsop, Iron, Lace, Linnen, Millstones, Oyl, Pitch, Plate, Potash, Prunes, Rashes, Rosin, Sarsenets, Sattins, Silks, Skins, Steel, Tapstry, Tar, Timber, Velvets, Wainscots, Wax, Wines, and other things in abundance; the exporting of which Commodities a-*

(s) *Page* 140.

gain

gain to other Countries, gives our Ships full Employment, ſo that they need not go in Ballaſt to ſeek Freight, but by the Profit of our outward bound Voyages are enabled to ſerve Foreigners ſo cheap, as to render us the common Carriers of the World, conſequently Maſters of the moſt certain Profit in Trade; for when the Ships arrive ſafe in Harbour, though Adventurers happen to looſe by their Goods, yet Seamen are paid their full Wages.

Beſides by continual Bartering of ſuch Exports, Holland *is rendered the mighty Store-houſe, and Empory of all Foreign Products and Manufactures, from whoſe infinite Miſcellany of Goods its Inhabitants are compleatly furniſhed with ſuch ſortable Wares, as enables them to Trade from Port to Port without danger of glutting Markets.*

And thus as our Fiſhery hath encreaſed, our Trade and Navigation; conſtant Employment hath ſtill made Foreigners flock to us in ſuch Numbers, that out of our Multitudes, ſupplying (from time to time) the loſs of ſo many lives as the change of Climates, Succeſſes againſt the Portugeſes, *and Victories againſt the* Indians *have coſt us; we have forced Treaties of Commerce, Excluſive to all other Nations: Built Forts upon Straits and Paſſes that Command the Entrances into Places of great Traffick; Monopolized all the Spice Trade, and mightily advanced towards Engroſſing the whole Commerce of the* East Indies.

E. Well may you boaſt, that *Amſterdam* is Founded upon Herring Bones; and no wonder that notwithſtanding your ſo frequent and

chargeable Wars ever since your Revolt from *Spain*, there is hardly a Beggar in your Streets.

But if in *Holland*, which contains not above Five millions of Acres, its Bogs and Sandy-downs excluded.

Holland, where you have no Minerals, and where it is in vain to dig for any thing but Turf, and Clay.

Holland, where you have no Tree but what you planted, nor Stone but what you brought thither.

Holland, so much lower than the Ebbings of the Tides and Rivers, that at vast Expence you are obliged with Mills to drain the very Floods occasioned by Rain.

Holland, where notwithstanding your continual Charge (as was said) in repairing Banks and Dykes; frequent Inundations destroy Man and Beast for several Miles together, and then vast Sums (and whole Years) are spent e're the Land can be regained.

Holland, where the *East* Winds coming to you o're a mighty length of dry Continent, extream Cold, and long Winters, put you to the expence of much Fire, Candles, Food and Rayment; and to great charge and pains in housing and foddering your Cattle, all which time (living on dry Food) they yield little Milk.

Holland,

Holland, ſo expoſed to bleak Winds, that blaſt the Bloſſoms of its Trees, and Storms that ſhatter off e're ripe their Fruit.

Holland, where that little Arrable Land you have, lying generally on ſand or light Bottoms, requires much Soil, and where Seed-time is ſo ſhort, that unleſs it be exactly nicked no Profit can be reaped; for when the Seed rots in the Ground (as by great Rains it frequently happeneth,) the Seaſon is generally paſt before it can be Sown again.

Holland, whoſe whole Product is ſcarce ſufficient to ſerve (*t*) one Eighth part of its Inhabitants, conſequently the reſt are obliged to purchaſe the ſo neceſſary Commodities, Food, and Rayment of Neighbouring Countries at the Rates they can get them.

Holland, whoſe Territories extending upon powerful Neighbours, To defend it's Frontiers, and draw out a War in length by Sieges, in order to determine it, by force of Money rather than of Arms; you are obliged to be at vaſt Expence in Fortifications and Standing Troops, to defend them even in the time of the profoundeſt Peace, for inſtance *Anno* 1670. After all Reforms, you had Ten Regiments of Horſe and Nineteen of Foot, making together Twenty ſix thouſand Two hundred Men, the

(*t*) *Pol. Gran. & Maxims van Holland*, Page 44.

conſtant

conſtant Charge of which Forces was 5562811 *l.* Sterling *per Annum.*

I ſay, if in *Holland* naturally loaded with theſe Diſadvantages and Misfortunes, and all their ill Conſequences; notwithſtanding you are (*u*) *Bridled with hard Laws, terrified with ſevere Executions, environed with Foreign Forces, and oppreſſed with the moſt cruel Hardſhips and Variety of Taxes that were ever known under any Government.* Your People are become ſo numerous and wealthy, by Fiſhing upon our *Northern* Coaſts.

Did we in *England* diligently apply our Selves to the Fiſhing Trade, what a continual Sea Harveſt might we reap, whoſe Coaſts ſo abound with Cod, Hake, Conger, Whitings, Scate, Sprats, Soals, Oyſters, Salmon, Pilchards, Turbets, Thornbacks, Mackerel, Herrings, or Ling, all the Year long.

D. Why e'en juſt ſuch a Sea Harveſt as the Hamburgers *did (who after five or ſix Years trial to imitate us in the Herring Fiſhery,) found to their coſt we ſtill out did them, and ſo we ſhall you.*

E. The Reaſon why you outdid the *Hamburgers*, was becauſe they were yearly Frozen up (*w*) ſomewhat longer than you, but ſeeing by that Start you could out ſtrip them, ſurely we need not fear the Goal; who (beſides what

(*u*) *Sir* William Temple's *Obſervation on the United Provinces,* (*w*) *Lex. Mercator. Fol.* 171.

has

has been ſaid, I have in Fiſhing many more Advantages of you, than ever you had of the *Hamburgers*.

D. *The generality of your Countrymen are of another Opinion.*

E. I am not Ignorant what Induſtry has been uſed to Poyſon my Countrymen with an Opinion, that none but *Dutch-Men* can thrive by Fiſhing: But unprejudiced Perſons upon examining the Matter will find,

The *Dutch* have above an hundred Leagues to Sail before they come to the *Herring Fiſhery*, which is only in the *Britiſh* Seas, and when there, muſt lie at the mercy of the Winds for want of a Port to Friend, and in caſe of Unloading have as far back again, which takes up a great deal of Time, hinders Buſineſs, and endangers the loſs of their Markets: Whereas, in *England* we have the Fiſh upon our own Coaſts, ſo near our Shoars, that in caſe of Storms, Unloading, taking in of Proviſions, or the like, it is but four or five Hours work (commonly not ſo much) to recover an Harbour, and without loſs of time put to Sea again; the work of Unloading, Repacking, and ſending our Fiſh to Market going on in all Weathers.

D. *And have not we Dogger Boats to take off our Fiſh at Sea, and refurniſh the Fiſhermen with Cask, and other neceſſaries.*

E. Yes *Sir*, and you have the charge and riſque of thoſe Dogger Boats too (both which

the

the *Engliſh* ſave) after all if it happens to be a Rowling Sea, you muſt lie by and wait for a Calm.

D. *What other Advantages can you boaſt?*

E. *England*, hath many convenient Tide-haven-Ports, as at *Hull*, *Harwich*, and Holy Iſland to the *Northward*, and *Dover*, *Rye*, *Portſmouth*, *Southampton*, *Cowes*, *Weymouth*, *Dartmouth*, *Catwater*, *Hamoſe*, *Fowey*, *Falmouth*, *Hilford*, *Scilly*, and *Milford Weſtward*, where at low Water all of them are ſmall Chingle or hard Sand; ſo that our Veſſels may eaſily haul a ſhore, and Waſh and Tallow at Pleaſure; nor are Creecks and commodious Places wanting in *England* to lodge our Buſſes and Doggers ſafe when not employed, ſo as to prevent wear of Cables, charge of Watching, danger of Fire, *&c.*

D. *What elſe?*

E. The Shores of *England* are bold, its Coaſts high-land, eaſily diſcovered, ſeveral of our Cape-Lands oppoſite to *France* and *Holland*, make *Eddy-Bayes* whoſe depth of Water is mean as ſix, eight, ten, or twelve Fathom the Tides (on our own Coaſts) are ſmall Anchor hold, generally ſtiff Clay, Chalk or hard Gravel, ſo that we need not dread Winter Storms, beſides the Advantage we have of lying in a moderate Climate, and in the very Center of the Trade of *Europe*, affords us opportunity of ſending to Forreign Parts, from divers of our Ports at all Seaſons of the Year: Whereas,

Whereas, the Coasts of *Holland* are extreamly Low, subject to be Hazy and Foggy, have many Shoals and Sands, some of which lie so far off at Sea, that frequently Ships are Stranded before they see Land; its Ports are bad, and often choaked up with Quick-sands; its Haven's yearly frozen up two or three Months together: And the *North west* Wind (usually blowing the greatest part of the Year) makes *Holland* a Lee, and *England* a Weather-shore, so that (oft times) whil'st you are Wind bound or Frozen up at home, we can supply the Markets abroad.

Besides, wanting Wood at reasonable Rates, you cannot share with us in the Red-herring Trade.

As for Pilchards, they cannot be well cured unless brought Fresh on Shore, and being taken on our Coast's, will be Stale e're they can be carried to Your's.

Not to mention our Rich New *England Fishery*, our *Western* Ports are incomparably scituared for the *Newfound-Land Fishery*, and the Country it self belonging to the Crown of *England*, you can have no footing there.

Near the Pile of *Foudray* in *Lancashire*, and in several other Places along the Shores of *Wales*; we can Fish even without the Charge of Busses, for by only setting Nets on the Sands at low Water, great quantities of Herrings are taken next Tide of Ebb.

D. *Thoſe Herrings on the Coaſt's of* Lancaſhire *(coming newly out of the Ocean) are ſo fat they will not take Salt kindly, conſequently are apt to Reaſt.*

E. We now find by Experience, that fat Herrings being preſſed and cured like Pilchards, take Salt kindly, and yield Store of Oyl, to the great Encouragement of our Ship-wrights, Curriers, Soap-boylers, *&c.*

D. *How chance this Method was not found out ſooner?*

E. Dies Diem docet; thoſe noble Salt Rocks in *Cheſhire, (*ſufficient to ſupply all *Europe*) have not been many Years diſcovered.

Beſides, of a Stone abounding in *Shropſhire*, much Pitch is now made of ſo Excellent a Nature, Heat only cauſeth it to penetrate deeper into Plank, and Cold cannot make it crackle off; both which are Advantages *Holland* can't pretend to.

D. *What more?*

E. The Coaſt's of *Wales* abound with Aſh; which as far excels other Wood for drying Herrings, as its Bark doth all others for tanning Nets: Nor do we in *England* (as you) want Willow-hoops from *Hamburgh.*

D. *Notwithſtanding all the Advantages you ſpeak of your Chief Fiſhing Towns,* Yarmouth *and* Layſtoffe, *are beholden either to us at* Enckhuijſen, *or to the* French *at* Diep, *for ſelling them Nets?*

E. Before

E. Before the late War, they uſed to buy Sail Cloath of you to, but that now made at *Fulham*, &c. is brought to equal Perfection with your beſt Hollands-Duck; and as for Nets, the Towns you mention, have theſe ſeaven Years laſt paſt made moſt they uſed; and who knows, but that our Artiſans (univerſally allowed the beſt upon Earth for Improvements) may in a little time as much Excel you in theſe Things, as they out do the *Germans* in fine Steel-works; which though they firſt Invented, yet we now make and ſell to them:

But ſeeing you talk of being beholden: I think you are beholden to us, for ſelling you our Thames Lamprons wherewith you bait for *North* Sea Cod, elſe you might go . . . . . whiſtle for 'em.

D. Have you any more Advantages of us?

E. I omitted to tell you, that upon Exporting our Fiſh, we have the Benefit of a conſiderable draw back upon Salt.

D. If that were all, rather then ſuffer that Tide of Wealth that flows in our Fiſhery *to be Diverted to another Channel; no doubt but our* States *will allow the* Dutch *the like Encouragement: But now I find you have told me all your Advantages.*

E. Excuſe me *Sir, England* affords Timber, Iron and Hemp; whereas, you are forced to purchaſe thoſe Commodities in Foreign Countries.

D. *Nevertheleſs, we have all Naval Stores in Barter for Herrings, which coſts us little but the trouble of hawling up out of the Sea, which being conſidered, and how much the catching ſuch Herrings (by employing and encreaſing our Ships and Marriners, adds to the Wealth and Strength of our Country,) it conduceth far more to our Advantage, then if* Holland *had Naval Stores of its own Product: Whereas, to purchaſe* Eaſt *Country Wares, the* Engliſh *are yearly forced to Export much Coin, to the great exhauſting of their Treaſure.*

E. We do not (as you) depend ſolely upon the *Eaſt* Country for Naval Stores; no, in caſe of Exaction or Rupture, we can be ſufficiently ſupplied from our *American* Plantations.

But if a *Fiſhery* be Eſtabliſhed in *England*, what ſhould hinder us from having Naval Stores in Exchange for Herrings as well as you?

D. *Your white Herrings are not ſo bright and good as ours.*

E. Whil'ſt your Clapboard is floating from *Germany*, the Rhine draws out its Sap, and if we alſo ſoak the Corroſive Sap out of our Clapboard, which now diſcolours and preysupon our Fiſh, and like you, gip and ſalt the Herrings as ſoon as taken, they'l be every whit as bright, and good as Your's.

D. *We build Cheaper in* Holland *than you do in* England, *and Sail our Veſſels with fewer Hands.*

E. Our

E. Our Ships are much Stronger and Abler to brook the Seas than Your's, and will laſt twice as long; and as to your ſailing with fewer Hands, we envy not your Happineſs, whil'ſt (in proportion to your Tunnage and Number of Marriners) you yearly looſe (by ſlight building and undermanning) far more Ships and Mens Lives than we, for which Reaſon, in above three Parts of the World, our Ships yield better Freight, where then lies the Odds? Which were there any, could be only in Merchantmen to carry our Fiſh to Market; Buſſes and Fiſher Boats carry more Men to catch Fiſh than are needful to Sail them: And in the *Greenland* Trade, each Ship muſt have Three times the Crew that can Navigate her, to Man their Shallops when a Fiſhing, were not this true ſince in building, *Engliſh* Shipwrights know no Maſters, ſurely we might eaſily cauſe our Ships to be built and manned after your Mode.

But ſuppoſing your Aſſertion true, if as all Ships that carry Corn to *Venice*, are permitted to Load Currants at *Zant*; ſo all Bottoms which Exported *Engliſh* caught Fiſh, might be allowed to return with a Loading of Naval Stores, without paying Alians Duty: That would ſet us upon even Ground with you, as to the Buſineſs of our *Fiſhery*.

D. Two thouſand Five hundred Perſons are hardly able in a whole Year, to make a Fleet of Nets for Five hundred Buſſes: Now Englands *many waſts and*

and unimproved Lands, shews its not half Peopled, and of those in it,

Consider.

How many Women and Children do just nothing, only learning to spend what others get.

How many are meer Voluptuaries, and as it were Gamesters by Trade.

How many live by puzeling poor People with unintelligible Notions.

How many by perswading credulous, delicate and litigious Persons, that their Bodies or Estates are out of Tune or in Danger.

How many by Trades of meer Pleasure or Ornament.

How many by Fighting as Soldiers.

How many by Mysteries of Vice and Sin, or in a lazy way of Attendance upon others, where then can you hope to find Hands to carry on your Fishery.

E. In *England*, we have Numbers of *French* Protestants, who fled from *Diep* and the Coasts of *Normandy*, &c. (bred to the Business of the *Fishery* from their Cradles) that (if setled in our decayed Fishing Towns) would as certainly make them Flourish as the Walloon and Burgundean Refugees planted by Queen *Elizabeth* (*w*) at *Norwich*, *Canterbury* and *Colchester*, raised them (then so Poor) Cities, to such great Trade, Riches and Plenty.

(*w*) 1568.

In

In *England*, we have no Sumptuary Laws: So that Mercers not foreknowing Fashions, dare not lay out their Stocks till the Spring, at which time their sudden great Demands render Journey Men scarce, and oblige Weavers to draw in Numbers of Apprentices, who in few Months supply the Trade of the Nation; when being turned off, many (like the Inhabitants of the *Bath*, *Epson*, *Tunbridge*, &c. who live by exacting on Strangers in Summer), are ready to Starve for want of Employment before the next Spring.

Were a National *Fishery* established in *England*, our Gentry by causing their Footmen and Servants to rise early and employ their idle Hours in making Nets, might not only reap the Profit of their Work, but by accustoming them to Business in their Youths, beget in them such industrious Dispositions, as would prevent (what now too frequently happens) their becoming Beggars, or worse in Old Age.

The time of Labouring, and industrious People well Employ'd, is the best commodity of any Country; and were a *Fishery* established in *England*, how Advantagious would it be to the Publick: When all our disbanded Soldiers, poor Prisoners, Widows and Orphans, all poor Tradesmen, Artificers and Labourers, their Wives, Children and Servants, each vacant Interval may be getting a Penny by braiding and beeting of Nets, *&c.*

The

The far greateſt Part of *Englands* Droans are neither ſo Young, nor yet ſo Old or Decrepit, but that they may either turn Wheels, ſpin Twine, braid or beet Net's, cut Corks, caſt Leads, make Herring Spits, Norſels Swills or Baskets, Gip, Spit, Salt, hang or pack Herrings, or at leaſt tend Fires to ſmoak or dry them, pick Oakum or the like; and as a conſtant Employment of our Poor, will be a continual Eaſe and Comfort to them, by amuſing and diverting them from thinking of their Poverty or other Miſery; ſo will it alleviate the Nations Burthen, and in ſome meaſure be a Re-peopling of us too, by adding ſo many loſt Hands to the Service of the Publick.

D. *But ſtill you want Marriners; whereas Sailers in* Holland, *are as Common as Beggars in* England.

E. 'Tis own'd, our want of Marriners enough at once to Man our Navy, and Collery, coſt *London*, and the Dependencies upon the River of *Thames* (during the late War) above Seaven hundred thouſand Pounds, only in the Price of Coals; by which may be gueſſed, how Detrimental it was to the Trade of our Nation in General.

But the more we want Marriners, the greater Reaſon we have to Eſtabliſh a *Fiſhery*, which (as is ſhown in the *Preface*) is the beſt way to Encreaſe their Number.

The many Thouſands *Engliſh*, *Scoteh* and *Iriſh* Marriners, who now yearly Fiſh for you, would

would hardly ſeek work a broad, if a *Fiſhery* afforded 'em full Employment at home, and 'tis odds, but a finer Country, cheaper and better Food and Raiment, wholeſomer Air, eaſier Rents and Taxes, will tempt many of your Countrymen to croſs the Herring Pond.

Since the Peace is concluded and our Great Ships laid up, we have Marriners enough to begin a *Fiſhery*; and as that goes forwards, it will proportionably encreaſe their Numbers.

D. *Fiſhing is a Work for which the* Engliſh *are unfit, and requires ſuch skilful, induſtrious and robuſt Seamen, as no Country breeds but* Holland.

E. Your learned *Keckerman* ſay's, *Omnibus Hodiè Gentibus, Navigandi, induſtriâ & peritiâ Superiores eſſe Anglos.*

'Tis certain, our Marriners do as cheerfully undergo Hardſhips, and are as bold in Danger as any, and for hard Labour, the working of a Mine is incomparably harder than that of a Buſs. No Country but Great *Brittain* can boaſt, that after twelve Hours hard Work, its Natives will (in the Evening) go to Foot-ball, Stool-ball, Cricket, Priſon-baſe, Wreſtling, Cudgel-playing, or ſome ſuch vehement Exerciſe for their Recreations; and as for their *Genious*, its Remarkable, that ſuch Lads and Country Fellows as at *Yarmouth*, *Layſtoffe*, &c. are once hired into the Fiſhing Trade, and come to feed on the Fiſh they catch, it improves them at ſuch a rate, that of pittiful weaklings at Land, they become healthful, ſtout and

hardy Perſons, and upon trial find it ſo muc
to their liking, that not one in twenty but ta
to the Sea for good and all.

D. Engliſh *Men are dainty Chap's, and wh*
a Fiſhing cannot fare like ours.

E. It is certain, they need not for Meat an
Drink in *Ireland*, and in many Parts of *En*
land are above as Cheap again as in *Holla*
which produceth no other Proviſions (f
Traffick) than Butter and Cheeſe, and tho
too are Cheaper with us than with you: B
ſides 'tis obſerved, that whatever *Dutch* Fiſhe
men ſave by eating of *Grout*, they drink mo
than our's in *Brandy*.

D. *The Act of the* 18. Car. 2. *prohibits t*
Importation of Iriſh *Cattle, to keep up Rents: No*
catching much Fiſh (by hindering the Conſumptio
of Fleſh,) will make Lands fall.

E. Doubleſs Plenty of Food, is a great Ble
ſing of God, and no Good *Engliſhman* will d
ſire to grow Rich by a Famine.

Its, generally the landed Men be
the Burthen of the Poor, without findin
them Work, they muſt maintain them Idle
Where the Poor's Rates are High Lands wi
fall, and Rents be ill paid.

The cheaper Proviſions are, the leſs Taxe
will ſerve in time of War, Houſe-keeping wil
be leſs Chargeable, and a leſs Rate maintain
our Poor: But where Proviſions are Dear
Work and Wages, will riſe in proportion to th
great Detriment of Husbandry, and ſtop t
Im-

Improvements, which *(pro tanto)* will fall Rents; and raiſe all Manufactures, yet leſſen their Conſumption both at home and abroad, and Neceſſitate Maſters for want of Vent (by turning off their Journeymen) to make whole Families of Beggars at once.

Catching much Fiſh, will Morally ſpeaking, render *England* leſs ſubject to a Famine, which generally exhauſteth more of our Wealth in one Year, than War doth in two.

Catching much Fiſh, will give work to many Thouſands of both Sexes that now are cloathed in Rags, and (through Poverty) live only on Bread, Water Pulſe, Roots, and the like, who when they come to have the rewards of their Labours in their Hands, will Encourage the Woollen Manufacture, by buying New Cloaths; and our Farmers by a greater Conſumption of the Product of the Earth, By drinking Strong-beer, will advance the King's Exciſe by encreaſing the Number of Tenants, raiſe our Rents, yet leſſen our Poor's Rate and Taxes, by helping to pay them.

Catching much Fiſh, will occaſion the expence of much Butter, and make our Farmers run much upon Daries, the Buſineſs whereof though performed by Women, turns to as good Account, as the hardeſt Labour the Husbandman can employ his Time in: Put caſe the Market ſhould be over ſtock't at Home, *Engliſh* Butter is too Good a Commodity in *Flan-*

ders; *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, &c. ever to want Vent abroad.

The Cheaper our Proviſions are, the more Navigation will be Encouraged, more Foreign Ships will Victual with us: fewer our's in *Ireland*, and the more Beef, Pork, *&c.* ſhall we Export to *Barbadoes*, *Jamaica*, &c. ſo that ſuppoſing Meat ſhould not always remain at a very exceſſive Rate, yet where a greater Conſumption cauſeth a quick Market, though at a midling Price; if the Proverb be true, light gains will make a heavy Purſe.

It is cheap Proviſions that Enables the *Indians* to Supplant the *Europeans* in their Manufactures; and ſhould a *Fiſhery* make Proviſions in *England* but one Tenth part Cheaper, Wages would fall in Proportion, and our Artiſts grow never the Poorer, yet our Merchants be enabled (by underſelling) to beat all the reſt of *Europe* out of the Woollen Trade, and then our Farmers would gain far more by the riſe of the *Fleece*, than they'd looſe by the fall of the *Fleſh*.

After all, the Profit of Land in *England* doth not wholy conſiſt in Breeding, abate in Graſing, and plow up more Paſture, and *Fleſh* will hold its Price.

D. *Corn is ſo Cheap in* England, *your Farmers are often Broke by it, what then could you do with greater Quantities.*

E. The Reaſon why Farmers ſometimes want Vent for their Grain, is becauſe we have not

not always Store, and therefore Merchants makes no proviſion for the Trade. But if we yearly Sow ſuch Quantities of Corn beyond the Expence of the Nation, as Merchants may be no leſs certain of a conſtant ſupply here than they are in the *Sound* (where the Country depends as much upon their Harveſt, as *France* does on its Vintages,) Plenty would ſoon create a Trade, and the Advantage of *England*'s lying ſo much nearer than *Dantzig* to the Places where Foreign Corn is exported, together with the Allowance granted by the 25. *Car.* 2. upon the Exporting thereof, will ſufficiently Encourage Merchants to deal therein.

Moſt of our Ships are now ſent light to *Bilboa*, and *Lisbon*, (now what loads our Ships helps our Navigation,) and our Exports to *Lisbon* not anſwering our Imports from thence; the more we ſend them in Corn, the leſs their Wines will coſt the Nation in ready Money, or Bills of Exchange which is all one.

Gold and Silver Mines *England* hath none, and in time of Peace no way to get Bullion, but by Foreign Traffick; to which, nothing can more conduce than cheap Fiſhing, and cheap Working and Manufacturing the Commodities, which compoſe the Exports of our Kingdom, and that is, *not* to be effected except Labour be Cheap, which it can never be where Proviſions are dear: But the cheaper our Proviſions are, the cheaper our Exports may be afforded, conſequently the more Vent

we

we ſhall have for them, and much Vent will cauſe many Workmen, and when the Wheel is ſet agoiug, Trade begets Trade, as Fire begets Fire; and the more Trade encreaſeth, the more will Induſtrious People from all Parts flock to us, and Tenant our Houſes, encloſe our Waſts, improve our Lands, encreaſe our Manufactures, and enlarge our Products, far beyond the whole Expence of our Nation, and thereby in Proportion add to its Wealth and Treaſure, for Merchants exporting the Surplus, will in Returns bring back Gold, Silver, and other valuable Commodities, which in *England* that hath property by Succeſſion of Contracts, will diffuſe among its Inhabitants, and thus as the Number of Perſons made Rich by their Labour and Induſtry encreaſe, and the Choice of Tenants and Chapmen are enlarged, a kind of Competition amongſt them, muſt and will make Rents and Lands advance in Proportion: Witneſs *Holland*, and ſuch of our Lands as lie near Great and Populous Corporations. So true it is, that *Trade and Lands are Twins, that always wax and wain together.*

D. *Notwithſtanding what hath been ſaid, I adviſe all your Country Men not to be concerned in a* Fiſhery, *for in* Holland *we have Money at Three, whereas the Trade of* England *is burthened with Six* per Cent *Intereſt, conſequently you can never keep pace with us.*

E. Why do you not (for the ſame Reaſon) adviſe us, to forbear Trading to *Eaſt India*, *Turkey*,

Turkey, *Spain*, *France*, *Italy*, *Portugal*, &c. nay, to quit all Navigation, and abandon our Selves to the next Comers. Was it not the Fiſhing Trade gave riſe to all your Wealth, and as Money grew plentiful in *Holland*, did not Lands riſe gradually to near forty Years purchaſe, and Intereſt fall by degrees from Eight to Three *per Cent*? Why then may not we expect, that a *Fiſhery* will do the ſame in *England*, and be a means to regain our *Muſcovy*, *Greenland*, *Norway*, and *Eaſt* Country Trades? For, ſtill as Trade by encreaſing of Wealth, cauſeth an abatement of Intereſt, abatement of Intereſt, will yet cauſe a further encreaſe of Trade.

D. *The* Dutch *are already ſetled in the Fiſhing Trade.*

E. Stately, *Genoa*, that once employed Forty thouſand Hands in the Silken Manufacture, declines now as faſt, as her formerly neglected Neighbour *Leghorn* riſeth: And if the *French* King continues to court all the World with popular Immunities, *Leghorn* (in time) muſt give Place to her Siſter *Marſeilles*

The King of *Portugal* having diſcovered the Paſſage to the *Eaſt Indies* (*x*) by the *Cape* of *Good Hope*, and ſo diverted the Courſe of Trade driven by the *Venetians*, from *Alexandria*, and the Red Sea to his Port of *Lisbon*; kept Factors at *Antwerp*, to Vend there his *Indian* Commo-

(*x*) *Anno* 1500.

dities;

dities; which drew several Merchants from divers Parts to reside there, and made that pleasant seated City the Pack-house of *Europe*: But when the *Dutch* (y) also found the Way to the *Indies*, and began to Rival *Portugal* in that Trade, Merchants resolving not to loose the Advantage of their Skill in *Indian* Commodities by removing to *Amsterdam*, improved their own Estates but ruin'd *Antwerp*.

Trade like the Sea, its Element often ebbs and flows from one Place to another; not many Years since, we Imported Silk-stockings from the *Levant*: But now the Tide is turn'd, and we send them thither.

D. *Projects in* England, *have of late proved very Unsuccessful.*

E. What though some Men have run upon wild Notions, and catching at Shadows lost their Substance, that's no Objection against our *Fishery*, which is a certainty; for the *Sea* yields her *Fish*, as well as the *Earth* her *Fruit* in due Season: And *Neptune* hath been far more Bountiful to you than *Ceres*.

D. *Have you drawn up a Method for Employing the Poor of* England *in a National* Fishery?

E. I have attempted it, but find the well contriving the Business requires far better Heads than mine.

D. *However let's see your* ESSAY.

E. Here it is *Sir*, and may receive Alterations and Additions upon Consideration.

(y) *Anno* 1602.

THE

THE PROPOSAL.

1. THAT towards raiſing a Joint-ſtock for Employing the Poor in a *National Fiſhery*, a Million be Subſcribed.

2. That the Money Subſcribed be called Stock, and be Aſſignable.

3. That every Subſcriber, at the time of ſuch their Subſcriptions, pay to . . . . . One full fourth Part of his, her, or their reſpective Subſcriptions; and in Default of ſuch Payment, every Subſcription to be utterly Void and Null.

4. That the reſidue of the ſaid Subſcriptions, be paid by ſuch Proportions, and at ſuch Days and Times, as by a General Court of the ſaid Subſcribers, ſhall from time to time be appointed: And in Default of ſuch Payment, that then the fourth Part firſt paid, as aforeſaid, be forfeited to the Uſe of the Corporation, herein after mentioned, their Succeſſors and Aſſigns.

5. That the Subſcribers be Incorporated by *Act* of *Parliament* (by the Name of the Corporation, for employing the Poor of *England* in a *National Fiſhery*) with perpetual Succeſſion.

6. That at a General Court to be held for the ſaid Corporation, Thirty be choſen out of the ſaid Subſcribers, by plurality of Votes, and preſented to the Parliament.

7. That out of the ſaid Thirty, Ten be nominated Fathers of the Poor, and Directors of the National Fiſhery by both Houſes of Parliament, approved by His Majeſty, and accountable to them for their Truſt.

8. That in caſe of Vacancy (by the Death, or Miſdemeanor) of any one of the ſaid Father's of the Poor (during Seſſions of Parliament,) the ſaid Corporation to preſent Three, out of which His Majeſty and Parliament to nominate One, as before, and ſo *toties quoties*. But in caſe the Parliament ſhall not then be ſitting, that ſuch Vacancies be filled up by the Majority of the Surviving Father's until next Seſſions of Parliament; and then the Corporation to preſent, and the *King* and *Parliament* to approve as before.

9. That ſuch Father's be Impowered to Conſtitute under the Seal of the ſaid Corporation, a ſufficient Number of Deputies in each County in *England*; and that ſuch Deputies be, and be called Steward's of the Poor.

10. That the ſaid Father's and ſuch Steward's of the Poor, be exempted from all Pariſh Offices.

11. That the ſaid Father's, and ſuch their Steward's be veſted with all Authority now in Juſtices of the Peace; and that all Pariſh Officers be ſubordinate and accountable to the ſaid (Father's and ſuch their Steward's,) in allthings (only) relating to Employing the Poor.

12. That the ſaid Father's and Steward's have Freedom to ſet the Poor on Work, about ſuch

ſuch of the ſaid Trades relating to the *Fiſhery* as they ſhall think fit, with a *non obſtante* to all Patents that have been, or ſhall be granted.

13. That to prevent People from being oppreſt and ground to Poverty by Pawn-Brokers, that ſcrew out of them 40 or 50 *per Cent*; the ſaid Father's may be allowed to erect Lumber-Offices in every City and Town in *England* excluſive of all others, upon Condition they take not above . . . . . *per Cent, per Annum.*

14. That in all Churches (as in *Holland*) at every Solemn Aſſembly, the Church-Wardens with a long Staff, Bag and Bell during the Sermon, receive the Charitable Benevolence of the whole Congregation, and pay the ſame to the ſaid Father's, who ſhall cauſe a true Account to be kept thereof, and apply it to the Erecting Hoſpitals in *London* and other Great Cities, wherein Poor Women near the time of their Travel, may be received and carefully Delivered, and remain till they are in a condition to return Home, and follow their Work: And if at the Years end, any *Overplus* of ſuch Collections remain, that the ſame be yearly applyed for *Marrying* poor *Maids*.

15. That until the Buſineſs of the *Fiſhery* be ſufficient alone to give Employment to all our Poor, (or at leaſt during Ten Years next after the Eſtabliſhing a *National Fiſhery*,) the ſaid Father's and Steward's of the Poor, may be Impowered to Imploy ſuch of them as they ſhall think fit, in erecting Free-Schooles, Hoſpitals,

Work-houſes, and Ware-houſes; for the Corporation, in making Enclоſures, in repairing Sea Banks, draining Fens, cleanſing and deepning Rivers and Havens, in building and repairing Churches, Bridges and Cauſeways, in mending Roads, in planting Oaks near Navigable Rivers, and Fruit Trees, in Inland Countries, alſo in cleanſing of Streets, Common-ſhores and the like.

16. That the ſaid Father's of the Poor, be Impowered to ſend ſuch Refractory Poor as they ſhall think fit, to ſerve in His Majeſties Plantations, taking Security for their comfortable Maintenance during their Service, and for their Freedom afterwards.

17. That all the Poor's Rates in *England* be Collected, as formerly by the Church-Wardens of each Pariſh, and by them quarterly paid into the Treaſury of the ſaid Corporation, as a Recompence for their providing for the Poor, and freeing the Nation from Beggars.

18. That the Million Subſcribed, be always kept Intire, as a Security to Indemniſy the Nation againſt the Charge of the Poor; and the Income and Profit's be only divided amongſt the Subſcribers.

19. That the Treaſure of the ſaid Corporation be accounted as Sacred, and that it be Felony to imbezel, lend, convert, or apply the ſame to any other Uſe, than maintaining the Poor, or carrying on the Buſineſs of the *Fiſhery*.

20. That

20. That the ſaid Father's may buy up when Cheap, a certain Quantity of Corn, Coals, *&c.* yearly, and lodge the ſame in their *Granaries*, for the Uſe of the Poor, but not make Merchandize of them, or ſell them again in *England*.

21. That the Stock in the ſaid *Fiſhery* be not chargeable with any Rates, Duties, or Impoſitions whatſoever.

22. That Debts due to the *Fiſhery*, for Goods by them, *bona fide* ſold and delivered, take Preference of all others, Except thoſe due to the *King*.

23. That all Perſons may Fiſh as formerly, and ſell what they catch in *England*, but none Export any Fiſh but the *National Fiſhery* without paying them . . . . : *per Cent.*

24. That the ſaid Father's and Steward's, be Impowered to bind ſuch ſingle Perſons to the Company, as the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor by the Statutes of 43 *Eliz.* 2. 1 *Jac.* 25. 21 *Jac.* 28. and the 3 *Car.* 4. are Impowered to put out Apprentices, the Boys to Serve till Twenty four, and the Girls till Twenty one Years of Age; at One of the two and thirty Trades more immediately relating to the *Fiſhery*.

The Companies Intereſt will oblige them to Provide the beſt and ſobereſt Maſters.

How to prevent their Deſertion can be ſhown beyond Objection.

The Boys being in the Fiſhing Seaſon employ'd at *Sea*, and working at other Times

at

at that Trade relating to the *Fishery* to which they were Bound, when their Time is out, will be able to get their Livelyhoods either at Sea or Land; and if to render them more capable of serving their Country, the said Father's or Steward's (at Four a Clock each *Saturday* in the Afternoon) should cause them when (on shore) to Muster, and Exercise although only with Staves,) and for Diversion to play at Cudgels, or Fence, and reward the Conquerer with liberty of wearing a small Ribbon, whose distinguishing Colour of *Red, Blew*, &c. should Entitle them to be called *Captains, Lieutenants*, &c. by the rest of their Fellows, till next Weeks trial of Skill: How soon would Emulation beget Address? And what a Treasure and Strength to *England* would such a *Sea-Militia* be, always ready for Service both by *Sea* and *Land*, and and yet no Charge to the Nation till actually in it.

That His Majesty may be addressed to grant Leases to the said *National Fishery*, of all Wasts and Derelict Lands to be by them used in building Warehouses, curing Fish, spinning Twine, and drying and beeting their Nets and the like; and also to be by them distributed amongst such of their Apprentices, their Heirs and Assigns, as shall have faithfully served them Eight, or more Years, not more then five Acres apiece.

D. *Upon*

D. *Upon the whole, I confeſs, that* England *may out Fiſh us, but then you muſt have nothing to do with Companies, only make it every particular Man's Intereſt, and they'l ſoon make it their Buſineſs.*

E. Its Dangerous taking a Rivals Advice, and well known why *Fiſh* was ſo Cheap this Year in *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, and other *Engliſh* Markets; yet ſold ſo well in the *Eaſt* Countries. Glutting Markets may Ruine particular Men, but its far more Difficult to put Tricks upon Companies.

D. *After all, where can you find a Set of Honeſt Men, to carry on a* National Fiſhery *in* England?

E. In *Amſterdam*, you have your Church-Wardens, Directors of *Bethlem*, of your Raſp-houſe, of your Spin-houſe, *&c.* Commiſſioners for your ſmall Differences, and thoſe of your *Levant* Trade, your Sea Affairs, *&c.* alſo your Vroedſchap, your Schepens, and your Burge-maſters, which are Places of far more Trouble than Profit, yet (being the uſual ſteps to Preferment) are generally *(like that of Common-Council-Men in* London*)* officiated without Reproach. Not for that the *Dutch* are honeſter Men than their Neighbours: But becauſe ſuch are found tardy in thoſe Employments are barred all future hopes of Advancement And ſhould our *Parliament* addreſs his *Majeſty* to prefer in the Cuſtom houſe, Exciſe, *&c.* ſuch as behaved themſelves well in the *Fiſhery*, and make breach of Truſt therein, to incapacitate Men from ſerving the Government in any Employment Military, or Civil for . . . . . Years (how ſmall

Wages

Wages soever the Corporation allowed,) the Company would never want Servants, that Volunteer like, would vie with each other, who should best serve their Country by most promoting its *Fishery*.

D. *An Honest Man is a Citizen of the World, Gain, equaliseth all Places to me. And where you Settle a* Fishery *upon better Terms, than our's (as my Grandfather left* Antwerp *when its Trade began to decay, and removed to* Amsterdam) *I'le bid it adieu to t' Vaderlandt, and Remove to* London *in the Interim: Farewel.*

CONCLUSION.

SEeing in the Preamble of an *ACT* passed in the 14 *Car.* 2. 'Tis declared, **That the Publick Honour, Wealth and Safety of this Realm, as well in the Maintenance and Support of Navigation, as in many other Respects doth in an high Degree, depend upon the Improvement and Encouragement of the** FISHERY.

And seeing the way to all this Honour, Wealth and Safety is so Plain and Easie, that by only a Frugal and Industrious management of Affairs (*without quarrelling with our Neighbours,*) we may quickly become sole Masters of the *Fishing* Trade.

For shame let not *English-Men* longer say, *with* Solomon's *slothful* & *There is a* **Lyon** *in the Way.*

Prov. 26. 13.